

Senior Health and Wellness Committee

May 4, 2010

Minutes

Attendees: Myrna Cooperstein, Spencer Schron, Grace Whipple, Judith Levy, Miriam Kelty, Paula Post, Tammy Duell, Mona Negm, Sam Korper (Commission on Health), Sarah Gotbaum (Guest), Odile Saddi

Topic	Discussion Points	Decisions/Action Steps
Hoarding Update	<p>The county task force continues to meet mostly in work group format. They have developed a matrix that delineates the various agencies' involvement when a hoarding case is identified. In addition, they are looking at researching screening tools and modifying them to local needs. The task force is also looking at ways to connect people to existing mental health agencies.</p> <p>The Gaithersburg task force is accepting cases and has been working intensively on five cases for the past three months. In addition, the task force is reaching out to the community and has sponsored a highly successful workshop for family and friends of hoarders. Members of the task force are also working on obtaining funds to implement a training program for mental health professionals in the county's existing mental health agencies. JSSA has taken the lead on this effort, and a proposal has been submitted to the county council.</p> <p>HOC has developed a multi-disciplinary in-service on hoarding which is offered to all relevant staff (inspectors, property managers, resident counselors). The goal is to increase effective</p>	<p>Pazit requested the CoA's support of the proposal submitted to the County Council for training mental health professionals regarding hoarding. She will forward the proposal to Committee/Commission members if requested.</p>

	<p>communication internally to better address a hoarding case before it becomes a crisis.</p> <p>There have been many training opportunities in the area that have been well attended by mental health professionals. There is increased awareness and interest in this area.</p> <p>The Gazette did a piece about local hoarding issues that mentions the task force efforts. See link: http://www.gazette.net/stories/04212010/gaitnew195456_32554.php</p>	
Commission on Health Update	Sam discussed the CoH's continued interest in working on end-of-life care issues and the opportunity for collaboration with the CoA. He also discussed an Aging in Place report that he recommended for review by Committee members.	Report will be shared with the Health and Wellness Committee.
Aging with Attitude Event May 3, 2010 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	<p>Grace Whipple reported the event was successful with positive feedback from attendees. Approximately 400 individuals from the community attended the event. Not-for-profit and For-profit organizations were invited and available to provide information and resources for attendees. There were also exercise and dance classes and lectures.</p> <p>Approximately, 100 people visited the CoA table. CoA brochures, the CoA annual report and Montgomery County Resource Guides were distributed to interested individuals.</p>	
Discussion of Summer Study Proposals	The majority of the meeting was spent reviewing and discussing summer study proposals. Three proposals were recommended for presentation at the CoA annual meeting: Health Care Reform, End-of-Life Care, and Data Use for CoA Decision-Making.	Judy Levy and Tammy Duell will present the proposals at the annual meeting on May 20, 2010.

	Sarah Gotbaum raised the issue of the economics of older women and unrealistic federal poverty level standards. She suggested a summer study proposal related to this topic. After reviewing the CoA selection criteria and given the current economic situation, the Committee decided not to move forward with this proposal this year and recommended that this was a topic that might interest the Public Policy Committee.	
Stakeholder's Meeting May 18, 2010 8:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	Odile Saddi reported that 30 RSVPs have been received to date. The meeting will be held at Holiday Park Senior Center. CoA members will facilitate small group discussion, take notes and report on content. All CoA members are encouraged to attend.	Volunteers are needed to facilitate the small group discussions. Please contact Beth, Grace, Spence or Elaine if interested.
New Items	Next Meeting: June 1, 2010	

Respectfully submitted by: Tammy Duell
May 12, 2010